

Exercise Solutions for Math 20

Radicals and Complex Numbers

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1 Simplify the following. Rationalize the denominators.

1.1 $\frac{24c^{-\frac{1}{2}}d^{\frac{2}{3}}}{18c^{-\frac{1}{7}}d^{-\frac{3}{5}}}$

| | |
|--|--|
| $\Rightarrow \frac{4c^{-\frac{1}{2}}d^{\frac{2}{3}}}{3c^{-\frac{1}{7}}d^{-\frac{3}{5}}}$ | Simplify the fraction to lowest terms. |
| $\Rightarrow \frac{4d^{\frac{2}{3}}c^{\frac{1}{7}}d^{\frac{3}{5}}}{3c^{\frac{1}{2}}}$ | $a^{-\frac{b}{c}} = \frac{1}{a^{\frac{b}{c}}}$ |
| $\Rightarrow \frac{4d^{\frac{2}{3}}d^{\frac{3}{5}}}{3}c^{\frac{1}{7}-\frac{1}{2}}$ | $\frac{a^m}{a^n} = a^{m-n}$ |
| $\Rightarrow \frac{4d^{\frac{2}{3}}d^{\frac{3}{5}}}{3}c^{\frac{2}{14}-\frac{7}{14}}$ $\Rightarrow \frac{4d^{\frac{2}{3}}d^{\frac{3}{5}}}{3}c^{-\frac{5}{14}}$ | LCM = 14 |
| $\Rightarrow \frac{4}{3}c^{-\frac{5}{14}}d^{\frac{2}{3}+\frac{3}{5}}$ | $a^m a^n = a^{m+n}$ |
| $\Rightarrow \frac{4}{3}c^{-\frac{5}{14}}d^{\frac{10}{15}+\frac{9}{15}}$ $\Rightarrow \frac{4}{3}c^{-\frac{5}{14}}d^{\frac{19}{15}}$ | LCM = 15 |
| $\Rightarrow \frac{4d^{\frac{19}{15}}}{3c^{\frac{5}{14}}}$ $\Rightarrow \frac{4}{3} \frac{\sqrt[15]{d^{19}}}{\sqrt[14]{c^5}}$ | $a^{-\frac{b}{c}} = \frac{1}{a^{\frac{b}{c}}}$ |
| $\Rightarrow \frac{4}{3} \frac{\sqrt[15]{d^{19}}}{\sqrt[14]{c^5}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt[14]{c^9}}{\sqrt[14]{c^9}}$ $\Rightarrow \frac{4}{3c} \frac{\sqrt[14]{c^9} \sqrt[15]{d^{19}}}{\sqrt[14]{c^5}}$ | Rationalize. |
| | ■ |

1.2 $(u^{\frac{1}{3}} + (uv)^{\frac{1}{6}} + v^{\frac{1}{3}})(u^{\frac{1}{6}} - v^{\frac{1}{6}})$

| | |
|---|------------------------------|
| $\Rightarrow (u^{\frac{1}{3}} + u^{\frac{1}{6}}v^{\frac{1}{6}} + v^{\frac{1}{3}})(u^{\frac{1}{6}} - v^{\frac{1}{6}})$ | Distribute exponent. |
| $\Rightarrow u^{\frac{1}{2}} - v^{\frac{1}{2}}$ | Use difference of two cubes. |
| $\Rightarrow \sqrt{u} - \sqrt{v}$ | |
| | ■ |

1.3 $\sqrt[3]{-8^4}$

| | |
|---|---|
| $\Rightarrow -\sqrt[3]{8^4}$ $\Rightarrow -\sqrt[3]{(2^3)^4}$ | $\sqrt[m]{-a} = -\sqrt[m]{a}$ for odd m |
| $\Rightarrow -\sqrt[3]{(2^4)^3}$ $\Rightarrow -2^4$ $\Rightarrow -16$ | $(a^m)^n = (a^n)^m$ |
| | ■ |

1.4 $\sqrt[4]{9x^8}$

$$\begin{aligned} &\Rightarrow \sqrt[4]{9}\sqrt[4]{x^8} & \sqrt[n]{ab} &= \sqrt[n]{a}\sqrt[n]{b} \\ &\Rightarrow \sqrt[4]{3^2}\sqrt[4]{x^8} \\ &\Rightarrow x^2\sqrt{3} \end{aligned}$$

■

1.5 $\sqrt{\sqrt[3]{9a^4b^4}}$

$$\begin{aligned} &\Rightarrow \sqrt[6]{9a^4b^4} & \sqrt[n]{\sqrt[n]{a}} &= \sqrt[n+m]{a} \\ &\Rightarrow \sqrt[6]{3^2a^4b^4} \\ &\Rightarrow \sqrt[3]{3a^2b^2} \end{aligned}$$

■

1.6 $\frac{2\sqrt{5}}{\sqrt{8}} + \frac{9}{\sqrt[3]{16}}$

$$\begin{aligned} &\Rightarrow \frac{2\sqrt{5}}{\sqrt{8}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{9}{\sqrt[3]{16}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt[3]{4}}{\sqrt[3]{4}} & \text{Rationalize.} \\ &\Rightarrow \frac{2\sqrt{5}\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{16}} + \frac{9\sqrt[3]{4}}{\sqrt[3]{64}} \\ &\Rightarrow \frac{2\sqrt{5}\sqrt{2}}{4} + \frac{9\sqrt[3]{4}}{4} \\ &\Rightarrow \frac{2\sqrt{5}\sqrt{2}+9\sqrt[3]{4}}{4} \\ &\Rightarrow \frac{2\sqrt{10}+9\sqrt[3]{4}}{4} \end{aligned}$$

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